

FIFTEENTH YEAR.

SPARKS' SUSPENDING ORDER

Congressman Laird Expresses Himself Emphatically Opposed Thereto.

OPPOSED TO WESTERN GROWTH.

Some Legislation He Proposes to Push Forward During the Session—Yesterday's Washington News of Western Interest.

Jim Laird on the Suspending Order. WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—(Special to the Bee.)—A number of bills of vital importance to Nebraska will be introduced in the house upon the first call of states by Representative Laird. Among them will be bills for the relief of settlers on the Knevel lands; for the establishment of agricultural experiment stations at all stations in agricultural sections; to require land grant railroads to pay the taxes of their land and declare the same forfeited under the recent decision of the supreme court; to amend the animal industry bureau act, increasing the amount of money to be expended on domestic animals, etc. He will also present a joint resolution instructing the commissioner of the general land office to modify his order suspending the issue of patents as to allow all homestead and pre-emption entries in a district of agricultural land in Nebraska, Kansas and Dakota, which is now being issued, to go to patent according to law unless a specific charge of fraud is found or pending against the same; in other words telling the commissioner to obey the laws of the United States.

Speaking of this measure to-night, Mr. Laird said to the Bee correspondents: "I am charged with having made a personal attack upon Commissioner Sparks relating to the subject. This is a mistake. Whatever I might have said of the commissioner's conduct has not been of a personal nature. I have tried to place my criticism of public men and measures upon a higher ground than that of mere personality. That the effect of the ruling of the commissioner of the general land office suspending instances of patents in injurious to the extreme agricultural portions of western Nebraska, Kansas and Dakota I think is beyond question. One serious question is the suspension of the normal operation of the law by the commissioner, and his refusal in advance to issue patents upon final receipt of the local land office, is to make it impossible for settlers holding final receipts to get loans of money upon their land. This they had depended upon doing, and being able to do, they must face many unexpected hardships or abandon their land and come east where they can manage to live through the winter. I am in receipt of hundreds of complaints from people in my district on this subject. The extent of this hardship to settlers can be estimated when it is known that in Frontier county within the last year there have been upwards of 1,000 new homestead and pre-emption locations by actual settlers. No one wishes to interfere with Mr. Sparks' effort to prevent frauds upon the public domain, but every settler in Nebraska will understand the force of the suspension of patents from one to twenty years, or every piece of available agricultural land there need be no fear of successful frauds. The right of Congress by the law will successfully prevent all that. The statement that 90 per cent of the entries of public land in Nebraska are fraudulent is an unfounded charge, and so far as I can learn is based upon a report of a special agent, who makes no specific allegations, only a general sweeping charge. For example, suppose the then commissioner of the general land office had suspended the issuance of patents in Nebraska west of the fifth principal meridian, the effect of it upon the west would have been the effect of it upon the development of the state? It would have stopped its growth. That is what is being done with the territory covered by this order. Now the suspension of law is that public officers do their duty and that settlers upon honest claims are favored or harassed. Let those who are guilty suffer, but do not punish the innocent. The commissioner has no authority to suspend the laws and usurp both the powers of congress and of the courts, as he has. His order is a practical repeal of the land law of the United States. The suspension of law is an unheard of proceeding."

Mr. Laird will at the same time introduce a bill to quiet titles to those who have taken pre-emptions, and having paid for them afterwards took up a homestead, which Commissioner Sparks says cannot be done, and which decision he holds to be erroneous. This decision, Mr. Laird says, if maintained in absence of legislation, would unsettle about one-half of the titles in all of the great agricultural states west of the Mississippi.

MORRISON, CALLEBA & CO. Col. Morrison spent most of his time yesterday afternoon in the senate, and in the representatives in favor of the change in the rules and met with a fair degree of success. It was whispered that Morrison entered upon his task clothed with certain authority from the speaker of the house to forewarn the principles which will be likely to control him in the senate. He is in the distribution of chairmanships and committee places, and it is understood that several aspiring democratic statesmen were taken up to the high place from which they thought they could dispense from the coveted chairmanship and snug committee places for themselves. Simultaneously almost it was announced quietly that these were some of those who had been outspoken against the distribution scheme, while others who had been in the fence had all reached the conclusion that the appropriation bills ought to be scattered. Many wavering democrats have been assured that the administration regards the man with favor.

THEY MUST UNITE OR A SOLDIER. The democratic delegation from Iowa, having succeeded in changing the incumbents of all the federal offices in Iowa so far as internal revenue collectors, district attorneys and marshals are concerned, are now entering all their guns upon the soldier. The agent for Iowa, Nebraska and Minnesota, whose headquarters are at Des Moines, there were two serious difficulties in the way, however. The first is the splendid record and abilities of Mr. Rich as an official of the government; and second, that the delegation candidate, Hon. L. F. Kings, formerly democratic candidate for governor, and for years chairman of the democratic state central committee, was not a soldier. If the democrats could unite upon some good soldier for this place the unrelenting iron handed rule of the congressional delegation would be broken in this case. It is possible that some work should be accomplished before January. The proposed new rules are still the principal topic. Debate on them in the house has already shown something of the interest felt in that way, but it may be added that the senate is watching the proceedings with a good deal of interest as well. Talks with a very

A LITTLE TILT OVER DAKOTA

The South Carolina Senator Questions the Knocking Territory's Proceedings.

A DAY'S WORK IN CONGRESS.

Hoar's Succession Bill Passes the Senate—Sam Randall Opposes the Appropriations Distribution Scheme in the House.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—Mr. Dulph presented the credentials of John H. Mitchell, the newly-elected senator from Oregon, which were read. Mitchell was then sworn in. The chair laid before the senate a letter from the secretary of the treasury transmitting the report of the superintendent of the coast and geodetic survey.

Mr. Hoar, from the committee on privileges and elections, reported favorably the bill to his day for the meeting of electors for president and vice president, and to provide for and regulate the counting of the vote for president and vice president and the decision of questions arising therefrom. Mr. Hoar immediately after the disposal of the presidential succession bill, the bill fixing the salaries of United States district judges. The bill was read by the clerk.

The chair laid before the senate a resolution by Mr. Butler, calling for a committee to inquire as to alleged falsification of the receipt of the United States senators. Mr. Harrison did not think a committee necessary for that purpose, and the bill was not reported.

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Mr. Butler remarked that the proceedings in Dakota were regular and proper, and one would more quickly recognize the fact of falsification than the question of the propriety of the election. Mr. Harrison said that he had no objection to the bill, and that he would support it. Mr. Harrison declared that he would, but reserved to congress the power to approve or disapprove their conduct, and that power was recognized and admitted by Dakota.

Mr. McMillan said that Minnesota had been admitted to the union, and that senators had been elected and were ready to take their seats immediately on passing of the admission bill. Mr. McMillan said that he would support the bill, and that he would support the bill, and that he would support the bill.

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HOME RULE FOR IRELAND.

The Liberals Come to the Front With an Irish Parliament Scheme.

THE TORIES MUST GIVE WAY.

The Published Plan Creates Much Excitement—The Storm Clouds of Centuries Disappearing from the Emerald Isle.

The Liberal Home Rule Plan. LONDON, Dec. 17.—The Pall Mall Gazette announces this afternoon that despite the partial denial of Gladstone this morning, a liberal scheme for home rule in Ireland has been decided upon. This scheme provides for the creation of an Irish parliament at Dublin, the acts of which the crown will reserve the right to veto only upon the advice of the Irish ministry. Irish members will continue to sit in the British parliament, but the right of the crown to veto only upon the advice of the Irish ministry.

Mr. Spring of Illinois offered an amendment for a division of committee on railroads and canals from the committee on the proposed amendments to the constitution. The amendment was lost.

Mr. Spring of Illinois made several amendments to the bill, which he described as desirable, declaring that some of them did no business except select clerks, but his efforts were unsuccessful.

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THE GRANDEST KNOWN.

Elaborate Preparations Made to Receive the Irish Leader.

New York, Dec. 17.—Preparations for the receipt of Charles Stewart Parnell, which are being conducted in private, are represented to be on a grander scale than any former Irish movement in this city. The cooperation of such Irish Americans as Eugene Kelly, John D. C. Crimmins, Mayor Grace, Joseph J. O'Donnell, Miles M. O'Brien, James F. Coleman, Morgan Healey, John Henry Jones, and others, is known in banking, business and professional circles, has been secured in the formation of a citizens committee, together with delegates from the National League and various other societies, and the committee has been organized.

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AMONG THE RAILROADS.

A Nine Months' Report of Union Pacific Operations.

Boston, Mass., Dec. 17.—At the quarterly meeting of the directors of the Union Pacific railway, yesterday, a statement of the financial condition of the company for the nine months ending September 30, in comparison with the corresponding period of 1884, was submitted by President Adams. From the statement it appears that for nine months the earnings were \$7,272,694, the expenses \$5,272,825, the net earnings \$2,000,000, and the surplus earnings \$3,100,000. In the corresponding period last year the surplus was \$1,000,000. During the first nine months of 1884 the proceeds (\$4,000,000) from sales of lands belonging to the railway, and the proceeds from the sale of bonds secured by that mortgage, and applied to payment of the interest on the bonds, and to the present year cash received from such sales amounting to \$1,125,000 has been retained by the company, and applied to the payment of current liabilities, and done in 1884, the total surplus increase for the first nine months amounting to \$2,000,000, an increase of \$1,000,000 over 1884. The floating debt, which on June 30, 1885, was \$1,125,000, has been reduced to \$2,125,000 by the sale of bonds of the par value of \$2,250,000, for which \$1,000,000 was received during the nine months ending September 30. The funded debt of the company has been reduced \$1,125,000, and the net floating debt has been reduced \$1,125,000, making a total reduction of \$2,250,000. In the reduction of the gross floating debt there were used \$800,000 Kansas Pacific Railway bonds, \$1,000,000 Union Pacific Railroad company's sinking fund bonds, and \$450,000 United States Pacific Railroad company's sinking fund bonds, but as these securities were sold at a discount, the net reduction of the company's indebtedness in that respect was \$1,125,000. The sinking fund of the company, which on June 30, 1885, was \$4,500,000, has been increased to \$5,750,000 September 30, 1885. The land sales for the nine months ending September 30, 1885, which a dividend of \$1,000,000, and \$1,350,000 in the amount received.

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NEBRASKA AND IOWA NEWS.

Conveyed to the Bee by its Corps of Special Correspondents.

SUPREME COURT DECISIONS.

The Painting Process Suddenly Ceases—Ben. Hogan at Grand Island—Overdose of Morphine.

Iowa Supreme Court Decisions. DES MOINES, Iowa, Dec. 17.—(Special Telegram.)—The supreme court today rendered the following decisions: J. Scott, Richman, et al., vs. Supervisors of Muscatine county, appellants, Muscatine circuit court, affirmed.

John S. Davis & Sons, appellants, vs. Wm. H. Jones, et al., respondents, appellants, Lincoln district court, appeal dismissed. G. A. Davis, et al., vs. N. J. Carter, et al., appellants, Jones county district court, affirmed. J. W. Holland vs. Union county, Adams district court, affirmed.

State of Iowa vs. J. M. Nowar, appellant, Benton county, affirmed. County of Jones vs. County of Lincoln, Lincoln district court, affirmed. J. W. Holland vs. Union county, Adams district court, affirmed.

State of Iowa vs. Frank Sierrett, appellant, Jones district court, affirmed. Jones district court, affirmed. J. V. Evans, et al., Harrison district court, reversed. Charles Tubbs vs. J. D. Garrison, appellant, Harrison district court, affirmed.

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THEIR PAINT POT RUN DRY.

Wymond, Neb., Dec. 17.—(Special Telegram.)—Four of our business men were engaged in painting the town square here last night and at a late hour entered Chamberlain's drug store, and finding a quantity of about 17 years of age in charge, they informed him that the object of their visit was to clean him out, do him up, etc., accompanying the information with a liberal dose of nose paint thrown in his face by one of the party. The young man drew a revolver and proceeded to fire at the party, but the bullet holes through the hat of one of the intruders, the wearer sinking to the floor. His companions stood not on the order of their going but went at once. After the retreat of the besetting forces the young man sauntered out revolver in hand, and meeting in officer gave himself and gun into his charge. No appearance will be made against him.

Ben. Hogan in the Interior. GRAND ISLAND, Neb., Dec. 17.—(Special Telegram.)—Ben. Hogan spoke last night to a large and enthusiastic congregation at the Methodist Episcopal church. He gave one of his characteristic talks, which will produce good effects. His coming is for the good of the city, and we trust he will stay with us during the entire week.

Swallowed by the Big Fish. BEAVERCREEK, Neb., Dec. 17.—(Special Telegram.)—Today the two co-operative life insurance companies of this city consolidated, and the Mutual Beneficial Association of this city was dissolved. This is a case of a big fish eating up the little ones. L. O. C. Sabin is secretary, and William L. Camp president.

An Overdose of Morphine. CRESTON, Iowa, Dec. 17.—(Special Telegram.)—Harry Hopson, aged 32 years, a leading citizen of this city, died yesterday from an overdose of morphine administered by his wife. It is believed that he did not realize the danger that he was taking or what his result would be.

Engulfed by Ice Cakes. NONSUCH, Neb., Dec. 17.—(Special Telegram.)—No student is attached to the school, whose parents reside at Pittsburg, Pa., was drowned last night while attempting to cross the river on the ice. His body has not been recovered.

Killed by the Cars. PERCY, Iowa, Dec. 17.—(Special Telegram.)—Edward Garrity was killed by the cars today, by his own negligence in attempting to board the cars.

MURDER MOST FOUL. Detroit's House Burning Sensation Proves a Terrible Tragedy. DETROIT, Dec. 17.—Yesterday a fire in the suburbs of this city, in which the bodies of Frank Knoech with his wife and two children were burned, now proves to be an appalling murder. This crime was suspected yesterday, but the fact of a revolver with all the cartridges discharged, was all the evidence secured. At noon today a post mortem examination of the bodies was made, and resulted in proof positively substantiating that theory. Bullet holes and a 23-caliber bullet were found in the skull of both Frank Knoech and his wife. The funeral will be held this afternoon. All four bodies were placed in a single coffin.

Gen. Robert Toombs' Funeral. WASHINGTON, Georgia, Dec. 17.—The funeral of Gen. Robert Toombs took place here today in St. M. E. church. The whole town is in mourning. The funeral was appropriately draped. The casket was borne with wondrous leaves of beautiful workmanship ornamenting it. Governor McDaniel and many prominent citizens of the state were present. The funeral discourse was preached by Bishop Beckwith.

The Whisky Makers. CHICAGO, Dec. 17.—At a meeting of the Western Export association held here today to consider the question of surplus whisky, it was decided to reduce the price of raw goods from \$1.10 to \$1.00 per gallon, and to limit the amount of surplus whisky to 25 per cent of their capacity. It also decided to export even at a loss, and to equalize exports according to domestic demand.

A Spiritless Spiritualist. BOSTON, Dec. 17.—(Special Telegram.)—Charles Foster, a once noted spiritualist medium, who ten years ago made such a name for himself, died here yesterday afternoon at the residence of his wife, Mrs. Call, in Salem, of softening of the brain with which he had been afflicted for years.

Atlanta's Liquor Law. ATLANTA, Dec. 17.—Judge Marshall J. Clark, of the Fifty county superior court, granted a temporary injunction to-night restraining Ordinary Calhoun from announcing the result of the prohibition election, until the result of the election is known.

A Greasy Blaze. MONTREAL, Dec. 17.—Fire at the west end of the city this morning destroyed a 2-story house. Loss \$20,000, insurance \$10,000.

A Damaging Blaze, With One Fireman Killed. JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Dec. 17.—A fire broke out last night at 7 a. m. in Hubbard's saw mill on the dock and spread to Abel block, which was burned to the ground. The fire was extinguished by the fire department, and had to be dragged to the police station. Dobson was wealthy at one time, but becoming poor, moved from Baltimore to this city, and it is thought that his reverses turned his brain. It is thought that the wife cannot recover.

A Florida Fire. JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Dec. 17.—LATER.—The fire on Bay Street, this city, was stopped this morning at 10 p. m. by the fire department. The fire was extinguished by the fire department, and had to be dragged to the police station. Dobson was wealthy at one time, but becoming poor, moved from Baltimore to this city, and it is thought that his reverses turned his brain. It is thought that the wife cannot recover.

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